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**KERNAN ANNOUNCES STAFF CHANGES FOR
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR'S OFFICE, COMMERCE**

*Degner leaves for IEDC; McKenna moves into chief of staff role;
Monger to serve as executive director of Commerce*

(Indianapolis) – Lt. Governor Joe Kernan today announced staff changes for both the lieutenant governor's office and the Indiana Department of Commerce.

First, Alan D. Degner will be joining the Indiana Economic Development Council (IEDC) following a year and a half as the lieutenant governor's chief of staff. Prior to becoming chief of staff, he was an executive assistant in Kernan's office, president of the Indiana Small Business Development Corporation, IEDC's executive vice president and a fiscal analyst for the Legislative Services Agency.

"It is safe to say that among his many contributions to the improvement of Hoosiers' lives, the most important is the great work he did helping to restructure Indiana's tax code," said Kernan. "We absolutely could not have done it without him, and all of us owe him a great debt for bringing his expertise to the table.

"Al is moving on to yet another crucial task – identifying how we should best use IEDC's resources as we transition into our new regional approach to economic development," added Kernan. "I can't think of anyone better suited for this, and appreciate his willingness to take his vast knowledge of state government and public policy and apply it where it is currently needed most."

Moving into the chief of staff spot will be Thomas F. McKenna, who has been the executive director of Commerce since 1998. He joined the department after a year as an executive assistant to Kernan, and he has also served the state as a member of the Parole Board and as an administrative law judge for the Indiana Department of Labor Board of Safety.

"While Tom has done an excellent job at Commerce, we're excited to welcome him back to the Statehouse," said Kernan. "Having someone lead our staff who has direct knowledge of the things we want to do over the next two years makes sense. It will be a smooth transition, and one that will benefit our business creation and retention efforts."

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McKenna has also been a teacher, attorney and small business owner during his career. Born in Madison, Ind., he received both his undergraduate and law degrees from the University of Notre Dame.

Finally, Kernan said today that Timothy J. Monger will take over the executive director duties at the Department of Commerce. Monger was named director of Commerce's Region Seven office in Indianapolis just last month. Before joining the Commerce team, he was president and group chair for Indianapolis-based Monger & Associates, Inc. and TEC International.

"Tim was extremely impressive during the interview process for the Region Seven director," said Kernan, who, by statute, serves as director of the state's Department of Commerce. "So, bumping him up to the department's top spot wasn't a tough call.

"Tim has great experience in both the public and the private sectors – he's seen economic development from both sides," added the lieutenant governor. "I'm looking forward to working with him to build on the many successes we've had over the last six years."

Monger's résumé includes the titles of senior vice president for the St. Louis Regional Chamber and Growth Association and president of the Indianapolis Economic Development Corporation. He also served as an executive assistant for economic development under Indianapolis Mayor Bill Hudnut and is a past president of the Indiana Economic Development Association. Monger earned both his bachelor's and master's degrees from Purdue University.

Degner, McKenna and Monger will tackle their new roles beginning December 23, 2002.

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